

ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
A REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY

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RECEIVED
SUNSHINE PERIOD
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

MAY 5 2 58 PM '97

April 23, 1997

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MAY 6 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

On May 8, 1997, when you vote on the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide significant discounts for all telecommunications services including connections within each classroom, you will have the opportunity to guarantee that all students have an equal opportunity to benefit from our nation's technological advancements. This will prove to be a major step in the efforts to prepare students for their future in which 60% of the jobs will require computer skills.

As President of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Board of School Directors, I can assure you that our financial resources are being stretched to the limit. We face a constant struggle to meet the ever increasing demands being placed on our school district without sufficient funding to support our efforts. The proposed discounts will be a vital link in our efforts to expand the use of technology in our classrooms.

The AIU Board encourages you to support the original plan to provide discounts to schools for all telecommunications services including internal connections. This action will open the door of opportunity for every student in our country and help to prepare our workforce of the future.

Sincerely,

William R. Segar, President
AIU Board of Directors

WRS:ec



**LOST
HILLS**

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MAY 5 2 56 PM '97

JOHN R. BOGIE, Ed.D.
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

April 29, 1997

TRUSTEES

LLOYD L. FEWELL, President
GERRY L. EVANS, Clerk
DONALD W. ELHOLM
SANTIAGO GAONA
WILLIAM C. RODEN

OFFICE LOCATIONS

**DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION**

Mailing: P.O. Box 158
14823 Office Lane
Lost Hills, CA 93249
(805) 797-2626
Fax (805) 797-2580

**LOST HILLS
COOPERATIVE**

Mailing: P.O. Box 158
14835 Office Lane
Lost Hills, CA 93249
(805) 797-3007
Fax (805) 797-2580

**LOST HILLS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mailing: P.O. Box 158
14821 Primary Court
Lost Hills, CA 93249
(805) 797-3019
Fax (805) 797-3015

**A. M. THOMAS
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Mailing: P.O. Box 158
20979 Lobos Court
Lost Hills, CA 93249
(805) 797-3011
Fax (805) 797-3015

Ms. Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioner Ness:

RE: CC DOCKET NO. 96-45

The Board of Trustees of the Lost Hills Union School District would like to thank you for your dedication to ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Heretofore, our rural community has been unable to avail itself of access to the Information Superhighway due to the inordinately high costs involved in acquiring service.

If our students are to have access to this technology, deep discounts for telecommunication services must be gained this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN R. BOGIE, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

JRB/mh

"Each child in the world is unique."

Los Angeles Unified School District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES: 450 NORTH GRAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MAILING ADDRESS: BOX 3307, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90051

LOS ANGELES PHONE: (213) 625-6451

SACRAMENTO PHONE: (916) 446-6641

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

MAY 29 05 PM '97
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SIDNEY A. THOMPSON
Superintendent of Schools

RONALD PRESCOTT
Associate Superintendent
Government Relations &
Legislation

SANTIAGO JACKSON
Assistant Superintendent
Legislation

April 29, 1997

Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Unified School District, I would like to express our strong support for the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program, and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

Under the provisions of the telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan, even the poorest schools will be assured of access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. Telecommunications services will be brought directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. Each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program; the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. This program is absolutely essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue. To serve our students, we need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Prescott
Associate Superintendent

RP/tp

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MAY 6 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 5 3 18 PM '97
Beasley Middle School
Palatka, Florida 32177
April 28, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1010 Main Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a teacher from Putnam County School District, Florida, and I would like to thank you for your dedication ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and most importantly, the plan will provide services for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Beasley Middle School as well as other schools in our district was recently retrofitted for the Internet. We want our students to be able to learn vital skills necessary to become productive workers and informed citizens of our great nation as we enter the next millennium. In order for us to accomplish these goals, we will need discounts for telecommunications services this year. Without discounts, students will not be able to make the best use of money already spent on retrofitting our schools. As a taxpayer and educator I want the dollars spent to reap the most efficient results.

For these reasons, I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan to provide universal service for schools and libraries today and in years to come.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Betty J. Jackson
Betty J. Jackson, Teacher



GREG PETERSON
PRINCIPAL

READY SPRINGS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

10862 SPENCEVILLE ROAD, PENN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 95946
(916) 432-1118 • FAX: (916) 432-9473

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LARRY BABCOCK
SUPERINTENDENT

April 28, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

We are writing to you in regard to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. We are locally elected school board members from Ready Springs School District, and we would like to express our strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms where they can have the greatest impact on students.

The inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. Each element of the plan is vital, because we are preparing students to enter tomorrow's workforce.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is overdue. **Our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year.** We urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Victoria M. Oliver
Victoria Oliver

Pam Wolfe
Pam Wolfe

Clinton Patche
Clinton Patche

Robin McCrary
Robin McCrary

D. R. Walker
Dave Walker

Larry Babcock
Larry Babcock, Superintendent

April 30, 1997

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN N. NESS

MAY 5 3 23 PM '97

Honorable Susan Ness: Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW Room 844
Washington, DC 20544

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioner Ness:

RE: CC Docket 96-45: Universal Service to Schools and Libraries

I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for schools and libraries as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allows schools and libraries significant discounts for the telecommunications and **critical, non-telecommunications** services necessary to assure that **all** of our schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information driven world.

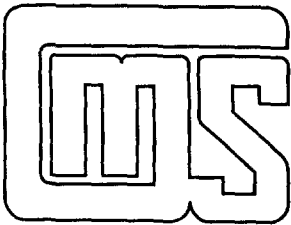
Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1966 with the clear intent of insuring that schools and libraries would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telco and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the state.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter that helps not only our schools and libraries, but us all. A better educated community benefits everyone!

Sincerely,

Ron Stanley
Mary Stanley

Ron and Mary Stanley
555 Red Cypress Drive
Cary, Illinois 60013
(847)516-3110



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education
Post Office Box 30035
Charlotte, North Carolina 28230-0035
Telephone (704) 379-7141

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MAY 5 3 22 PM '97

Susan Burgess, Chairperson
Arthur Griffin Jr., Vice Chairperson
George R. Dunlap
Lindalyn Kakadelis
John W. Lassiter
Pamela R. Mange
Samuel L. Reid
John A. Tate III
Louise S. Woods

SUNSHINE PERIOD

May 1, 1997

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MAY 6 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System works hard to assure that all 93,000 children in Mecklenburg County receive the finest education possible and to prepare them for their future life and work in the 21st century. Classroom connection to the internet is essential for their preparation for the information age.

I urge you to support the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan. This will enable even the poorest schools the opportunity to connect to the internet and provide distance-learning opportunities allowing equity in American education.

Thank you for your service to our nation, especially to our students, our future and number one priority.

Sincerely,

Susan Burgess

Susan Burgess

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

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MAY 5 3 13 PM '97

34 Mtn. Laurel Rd.
Boonsboro, MD 21713
29 April 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

As a faculty member of Springfield Middle School in Washington County, Maryland, I am writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

I thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. I appreciate your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital in preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

My students need discounts for telecommunications service. I would like to urge the FCC to completely support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Yvonne S. Thomas

Yvonne S. Thomas C.F.L.E./ C.F.C.S.

MONMOUTH UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38

Monmouth, Illinois 61462

APR 15 10 05 AM '97

Garfield Elementary School
Harding Elementary School
Lincoln Elementary School
Willits Elementary School
Central Jr. High School
Monmouth High School

325 South 11th Street
(309) 734-4712

JAMES R. JENKINS

April 10, 1997

Superintendent
Donald R. Jenkins, Ph.D.

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As Superintendent of Monmouth Unit School District 38 in Monmouth, Illinois, I write to thank you for your dedication to ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

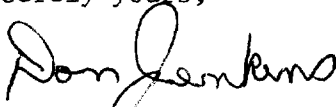
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. This integration of technology into the classroom is the payoff for students. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is also essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Unit District 38 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Donald R. Jenkins,
Superintendent
Monmouth Unit School District 38

DRJ/bja

Sandman Consolidated School
838 Seashore Road
Cape May, NJ 08204
(609) 884-9410

Maud Abrams School
714 Town Bank Road
Cape May, NJ 08204
(609) 884-9420

Lower Township Elementary School District

834 Seashore Road
Cape May, N.J. 08204
609-884-9400
FAX 609-884-1821

Memorial School
2600 Bayshore Road
Villas, NJ 08251
(609) 884-9430

Carl M. Knick School
905 Seashore Road
Cape May, NJ 08204
(609) 884-9470

April 10, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Cocket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I would like to introduce myself as the Superintendent of the Lower Township Elementary Schools. My appreciation is extended to you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and the plan will provide services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is necessary for providing the knowledge to our future workforce.

Reduced rates will allow students and school professionals to connect more frequently to a variety of resources providing greater access to the world-wide community. At this time, schools are limited by the constraints of costly message units, particularly in utilizing multiple ISDN connections for quality Interactive Television. Affordable access will encourage libraries and other agencies to provide more extensive services to schools.

I urge the FCC give their full support to the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely,



Joseph Cirrinicione
Superintendent

Maureen Fitzpatrick
882 North Colony Road, #69
Meriden, CT 06450

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 4, 1997

James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, DC 20054

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a faculty and technology committee member from Regional School District #17, Haddam-Killingworth, in Connecticut, and would like to thank you and the FCC Commissioners for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. The plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Discounts provided through the proposed Joint Board's plan will enable our rural district of 5 schools to provide equal access to telecommunications in all schools and classrooms. We are extremely limited at this time due to telephone line charges being charged at commercial rates.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maureen Fitzpatrick

Maureen Fitzpatrick

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

JAMES C. QUERO

APR 15 10 15 AM '97

REC'D



Kings County Office of Education

Gene Billingsley, Superintendent

Location
1144 W. Lacey Boulevard
Telephone (209) 584-1441

Mr. John Boogaard
Mr. Jim Focht

BOARD MEMBERS
Mrs. Larella Howe

Mr. Scott Clark
Mrs. Beth Rust

Mailing Address
Kings County Government Center
Harrisburg, CA 93230

April 9, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

On behalf of the fourteen school districts in Kings County, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In a continuing effort to provide the highest quality of Internet services to our students, our future, we intend to use the discounts in a fashion which will provide more free home dial-up for students; increase the speed of access; bring the other 50 percent of the schools within our county on-line; and provide discounts to districts currently on-line.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunication services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for Universal Service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gene Billingsley
Gene Billingsley,

Kings County Superintendent of Schools

GB:cm

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SUNSHINE PERIOD

JAMES C. QUAY

APR 15 10 16 AM '97

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96-45

Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District

A New Jersey Best Practices School

RAVINE DRIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ravine Drive, Matawan, New Jersey 07747

(908) 290-2780 FAX (908) 290-3370

Dr. Margaret A. Lewis
Principal

Michael K. Klavon
Superintendent of Schools

Joel M. Glastein
Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary

Frank J. Tanzini
Executive Director-Personnel/Elementary Education/
Affirmative Action Officer

Joan J. Vas
Executive Director-Curriculum & Instruction/Testing

James Quello, FCC Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20054

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6

JAN 15 10 26 AM '97

APR 15 10 26 AM '97

MAY 15 10 26 AM '97

Dear Chairman Hundt,

I am writing in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools so that every child and lifelong learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act, through its Universal Service Fund provisions, mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so they can secure services at affordable prices.

Advanced telecommunications services are important to improve learning, spark the imagination and level the playing field for all the nation's residents. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children can connect with the technology they will need to compete in tomorrow's work force. Advance telecommunications services in the classroom also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent you a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. If adopted, the recommendations would give schools and libraries significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those least able to pay and more expensive to serve. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.

Here at Ravine Drive School we have just finished our NETDAY. We have 24 classrooms where students and teachers will be using the Internet on a daily basis. Teachers will use the Internet to teach researching skills, current events, and the Internet will also be used to gather from and to share ideas with other elementary schools nation wide. With our very tight budget restrictions special discount rates for my school is an absolute must. I urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, the recommendation will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services and provide flexibility in choosing the services needed. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Respectfully,

Dr. Margaret A. Lewis
Principal

Margaret A. Lewis

96-45

630 HARVEY STREET
MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN
49442-2398

616-777-2637
FAX 616-773-1028

MAISD

MUSKEGON AREA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 8, 1997

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

JAMES H. BOZYM

APR 15 10 17 AM '97

RECEIVED

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As the Superintendent of Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD), representing a full service technology bureau to over thirty (30) regional school districts, I wish to express my gratitude for the interest you have exhibited in ensuring that all school districts, libraries and educational consortia will have affordable access to resources available via the Internet and other telecommunications vehicles.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the imminent Federal-State Joint Board decision will go a long way in creating access and equity for school districts as they struggle to install the appropriate technologies to afford their students the wealth of information resources of the Internet and distance learning. The \$2.25 billion annually will assist schools to allocate adequate funding not only for telecommunications services and Internet access, but for the needed networking infrastructure which they are struggling to carry out.

The MAISD knows well the struggles of our schools. We have begun the development of a wide area network offering administrative and instructional services to schools in six West Michigan counties. Our schools understand why these technologies are necessary to "do business" now and the future. Their struggle is not with understanding why they need to install infrastructure; their struggle is finding adequate resources to accomplish this daunting challenge.

The discounts outlined in the Telecommunications Act will permit schools to provide affordable access to the students in remote rural areas like Montague and Walkerville, and to economically disadvantaged central city students in Muskegon Heights and Muskegon as well. Elementary schools in all areas of our region will benefit significantly from the reduced rates and reimbursement this legislation will provide.

I urge the Federal Communication Commission to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely,



Michael H. Bozym, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Muskegon Area
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

96245

Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District

JON WHAN, Superintendent
4228 TWO MILE ROAD, BAY CITY, MICHIGAN 49707-2397
PHONE (517) 686-4410
FAX (517) 667-3286

INTERMEDIATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

LOUIS P. STANGE, President
FRANK H. DAVENPORT, Vice President
ANGELA V. FENTON, Secretary
W. THOMAS BURDICK, Treasurer

ROBERT C. BAKER, Trustee
PENNY L. PAGE, Trustee
WILLIAM A. JORDAN, Trustee

MAY 6 1997

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SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 8 1997

RECEIVED

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner:

As the Superintendent of the Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District representing 23,000 students in Bay and Arenac counties, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District has implemented the fiber optic backbone of a distance learning system. This includes a classroom in each of the local high school buildings dedicated to distance learning. Our goal is to expand this system to include all buildings in each of the seven (7) local school districts. The key discounts called for in the legislation would help immensely with helping us reach our goal.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jon M. Whan
Superintendent

96-45



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APR 15 10 17 AM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 10, 1997

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MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James H. Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am delighted to inform you that the IRTS Board of Directors has selected you to receive a special lifetime achievement award at its annual Foundation Awards Luncheon on May 20th. Established in 1994, this event annually recognizes four individuals who have had a significant impact on the electronic media industry, particularly during the *preceding year*. Our Board has voted to add a separate award in recognition of your *career-long* contributions to the regulation of our business.

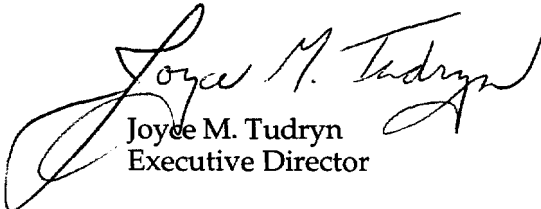
As you know, the IRTS Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization that provides media-related programs for students, minorities, professors, professionals, and the American public.

The award will be presented on **Tuesday, May 20th** at a luncheon in the Grand Ballroom of New York's Waldorf-Astoria. It begins with a Guest-of-Honor reception at 11:30 AM in the West Foyer (Park Avenue elevators to third floor), followed by lunch from 12:30 - 2:00 PM. The event is attended by a distinguished audience of 500 to 700 media professionals from diversified communications companies, traditional broadcast networks, cable channels, radio and television stations, program syndicators, ad agencies, and other important media entities.

We do ask that all recipients be present for the award ceremony, at which an individual, with a unique relationship to you and us, makes a four-minute presentation, followed by an acceptance speech of equal length from you.

Please say you can join us on May 20th at what we promise will be a very memorable and enjoyable occasion. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at 212-867-6650, ext. 301.

Kindest regards,


Joyce M. Tudryn
Executive Director

cc: Peggy Conlon

International Radio & Television Society
FOUNDATION, INC.

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 1714 • NEW YORK, NY 10170-0101
TELEPHONE (212) 867-6650 • FAX (212) 867-6653



Edisto Public Schools

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Orangeburg School District Four ♦ P.O. Box 69 ♦ Cordova, SC 29039-0069

David L. Coleman
Superintendent

(803) 534-8081
Fax (803) 531-5614

April 8, 1997

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 15 10 01 AM '97

RECEIVED

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, SC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

On behalf of Orangeburg School District Four, I am requesting that the Federal Communications Commission approve regulations for the Telecommunications Act of 1996 as recommended by the Federal-State Joint Board.

The Internet has unbelievable potential for classroom use by students and teachers. Our district is working diligently to install local networks to provide computers in each classroom. To provide Internet access for all students, our school district will need new affordable access rates. I believe that the Universal Service Fund as proposed by the Federal-State Joint Board would provide this affordable access. I request that the Federal Communications Commission ratify the Joint Board's proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this issue which is very critical for our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Philip Morris'.

Philip Morris, Chair
Edisto Board of Trustees

PM:kmb

96-45



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BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

3 West VanBuren Street • Battle Creek, Michigan 49012-3079

Phone: 616-965-9500

Fax: 616-965-9474

MAY 6 1997

APR 19 10 14 AM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 10, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello,

I am a Librarian/Media Specialist for the Battle Creek Public Schools. I am also a member of the District Technology Committee. I congratulate you on your involvement to ensure that all school districts and those involved with education will have affordable access to the Information Highway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that global learning can be a reality. The \$2.25 billion a year will create access to a world rich in resources and available to all learners in the classroom. Your inclusion of classroom connections for discounts is vital. The learning opportunities that must wait until tomorrow will begin to happen today. This project would enrich my students on a daily basis.

The Battle Creek Public Schools educational family needs deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

John Meninga
Librarian
Battle Creek Central HS



Caroline County Public Schools

112 Market Street
Denton, Maryland 21629

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R. ALLAN GORSUCH, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

April 10, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

TELEPHONE: 410-479-1460
FAX: 410-479-0108
HOME PAGE: cl.k12.md.us

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

On behalf of the seven least wealthy rural Maryland school systems who are members of the Rural Schools Education Fund, Inc. (R.S.E.F.), we respectfully ask you to support the Federal-State Joint Board decision with regard to the affordable access provisions for rural school districts and libraries.

The potential benefits of the Telecommunications Law of 1996 are substantial. We appreciate that local choice is permitted in the selection of technology and telecommunication services; that deep discounts to school districts, libraries and consortia that are located in remote, less wealthy areas are provided; and that flexibility necessary to create a service mix that addresses local needs is guaranteed.

Again, we emphatically state our support for rural access to technology for learners of all ages. We also strongly support the FCC Federal-State Joint Board recommendations for the Telecommunications Law that offers significant discounts to rural and underserved areas of America.

Sincerely,

R. Allan Gorsuch, Ed.D.
Chairman, R.S.E.F.

RAG:jhw

cc: Senator Barbara A. Milkulksi
Representative Wayne T. Gilchrest
R.S.E.F. Members
Dr. Terrance A. Greenwood, Executive Director, Public School
Superintendents' Association of Maryland (PSSAM)



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P.O. BOX 23387 • GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES: 200 S. BROADWAY
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54303

THOMAS M. JOYNT, Ph.D., SUPERINTENDENT
PHONE: (414) 448-2101

April 10, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

The Superintendent and Director of Technology for the Green Bay Area Public School District, would like to applaud your efforts to provide discounted educational rates for telecommunications services.

Heretofore, our attempts to provide Internet access for our schools has been severely restricted, due to budgetary constraints and high associated costs, to a variety of dial up methods to access a single 56 KB line from the District Office to our Internet provider. If more economical rate structures were available, we would like to implement leased lines to an Internet Service Provider from each high school and, possibly, from other distributed clusters of schools.

A recent letter to the editor in the Green Bay Press Gazette, Sunday, April 6, 1997 narrated the frustrations one of our high school students experienced trying to access the Internet due to our limited connectivity and the need to carefully allocate such an expensive resource.

Please continue your support to assure that the final regulations governing the "E-rate" telecommunications discounts actually facilitate our schools' ability to accomplish the goals intended without cumbersome restrictions being tagged on to appease various vested interests.

Sincerely,

DR. THOMAS M. JOYNT
Superintendent of Schools

GEORGE A. SMITH, PH. D.
Director of Technology

GAS/mwpg

HAMILTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 328

SUE KNIGHT, Ed.D.
Superintendent
270 N. 10th St.
217-847-3315

April 10, 1997

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SUNSHINE PERIOD

LEE HOFFMAN
Principal
High School
1100 Keokuk St.
217-847-3313

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

DALE BARNARD
Principal
Middle School
270 N. 10th
217-847-3314

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

MARCIA
SCHIEFERDECKER
Principal
Elementary School
1830 Broadway
217-847-3811

I am a superintendent from Hamilton Community Consolidated School District No.328 in Hamilton, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

Board Members:

Mark Menn
President

Minor Garrelts
Vice President

Ronald Starr
Secretary

David Boussetot
Steve Buntin
Kim Coovert
Michael Gray

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District No.328 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Susan Knight, Superintendent
Hamilton Community Consolidated
School District No.328

SSK/cs

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Saint Anne School

3550 Trinity Drive
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31907-3298

APR 15 10 17 AM '97

April 8, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

JAMES B. I

MAY 6 1997

RE: Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello,

I am a principal at St. Anne School from the Diocese of Savannah, Georgia and would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly into the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to this process. This plan is also essential in preparing our students for Workforce 2000.

Our school is working toward having a complete computer lab of 35 computers and twelve classrooms equipped with computers by the year 2000.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services to schools.

Thank you.

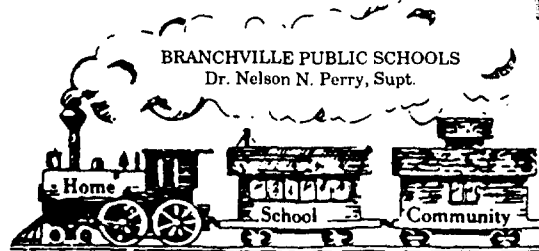
Sincerely,

Patricia Nobes

Patricia Nobes
Principal

ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8

361 Barton Street
Branchville, South Carolina 29432-0248
Phone No. 274-8900 Fax No. 274-8645



"PULLING TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT WORK"

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

APR 15 10 18 AM '97

JAMES V. QUELLO

MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a superintendent from Orangeburg School District Eight, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The money saved from the discount will enable us to use the additional resources to broaden our instructional offering and an innovative technology program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nelson N. Perry, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

LA HARPE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #335

404 West Main Street - R.R.#1 Box A

La Harpe, Illinois 61450

Phone: 217/659-7739 Fax: 217/659-7730

Steven Breckon, Superintendent

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 9, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

APR 15 10 20 AM '97

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a superintendent from La Harpe C.U.S.D. #335 in La Harpe, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.


The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District #335 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Steven Breckon, Superintendent
La Harpe C.U.S.D. #335



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Rushford-Peterson Public Schools

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 239 • BOX 627 RUSHFORD, MINNESOTA 55971 • FAX 507-864-2085

DAVID U'REN
Superintendent
507-864-7785

BRAD JOHNSON
High School Principal/Activities Director
507-864-7786

MARY L. ALLEN
Middle School Principal
507-875-2238

BRUCE BLIXT
Elementary Principal
507-864-7787

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

JAMES
MAY 17 10 18 AM '97

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner:

I am the superintendent from the Rushford-Peterson School District #239 and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

At Rushford-Peterson Schools, we are working with buildings that were built in the teens of this century, the thirties, the fifties, sixties and seventies. Even our newest building is not wired for electronic communications or even adequately for electricity for that matter. To bring the advantages of the Internet to our students, we must first spend a great deal of our resources on the infrastructure. What capital remains for the connection to a WAN and the internet fees is precious little.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you!

Educationally yours,

David U'Ren
Superintendent of Schools
Rushford-Peterson School District #239